

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 4, 11 and 20, amend claims 1-2, 5, 8-9, 12-15, 17-19, 22-23, 26-27 and 29-30 and add claims 31-62 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around ~~at least one microwave-safe material~~
a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process, wherein the enclosure is deformable;
~~an outlet disposed on the enclosure;~~ and
a cleaning solution comprising a surfactant and compatible with food preparation,
~~wherein the cleaning solution is in fluid communication through the outlet to~~ with the
interior of the microwave oven after the enclosure is deformed.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one microwave-safe material~~ cleaning article is selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, glass, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cleaning solution further comprises a fragrance and at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, an emulsifier, fragrance, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the surfactant has a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the fragrance is selected from the group consisting of lemon, citrus or pine.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation, wherein the enclosure is deformable to deliver;

~~an outlet on the enclosure, wherein the surfactant solution is into fluid communication through the outlet to with~~ the interior of the microwave oven; and

a cleaning material article for effecting a cleaning process.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8 10, wherein the cleaning material article is selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, glass, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 10 8, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, surfactant, an emulsifier, a fragrance, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the surfactant solution comprises a surfactant ~~at has~~ a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the at least one component is a fragrance is selected from the group consisting of lemon, citrus or pine.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven using a cleaning apparatus comprising a cleaning material article and an enclosure containing an outlet and a surfactant solution, comprising:

heating the cleaning apparatus with microwave energy for a period to evaporate a portion of the surfactant solution to form a vapor;

emitting the vapor from the enclosure into the microwave oven, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of the vapor through the outlet;

condensing at least a portion of the vapor onto the interior;

maintaining the microwave oven for a second period to hydrate a residue adhered to the interior; and

removing the residue from the interior with the cleaning material article.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the period and the second period are each about 5 minutes.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the cleaning material article is selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, surfactant, an emulsifier, a fragrance, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the surfactant solution comprises a surfactant at has a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven, comprising:

placing a cleaning apparatus in the microwave oven, wherein the cleaning apparatus comprises a cleaning article and a surfactant solution at least partially surrounded by an enclosure;

heating the cleaning apparatus for a time period;

evaporating at least a portion of the surfactant solution to form a vapor;

emitting the vapor from the cleaning apparatus;

condensing the vapor on the interior;

hydrating a residue adhered to the interior; and

removing the residue with the cleaning article.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the cleaning article is selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, a surfactant, an emulsifier, a fragrance, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein deforming the enclosure enables vapor delivery into the microwave oven.

25. (Previously Presented) A method for cleaning a microwave oven interior, comprising:

placing a cleaning apparatus in a microwave oven, wherein the cleaning apparatus comprises a cleaning article, a surfactant solution and an enclosure at least partially enclosing the surfactant solution;

heating the cleaning apparatus to form a vapor from at least a portion of the surfactant solution;

delivering the vapor from the cleaning apparatus to the microwave oven interior;

loosening a residue adhered to the microwave oven interior; and

removing the residue with the cleaning article.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the cleaning article is selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the surfactant solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, surfactant, an emulsifier, a fragrance, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein deforming the enclosure enables vapor delivery to the microwave oven interior.

29. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, glass, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof, and the enclosure is deformable to enable the surfactant solution in fluid communication with the interior of the microwave oven;

~~an outlet on the enclosure wherein the surfactant solution is in fluid communication to the interior of the microwave oven; and~~

a cleaning material article for effecting a cleaning process.

30. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

an enclosure and a seal disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation;

~~an outlet on the enclosure wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable fluid communication between the surfactant solution and is in fluid communication to the interior of the microwave oven upon opening at least a portion of the seal; and~~

a cleaning material article for effecting a cleaning process.

31. (New) A method for cleaning a microwave oven interior, comprising:

placing a cleaning apparatus in a microwave oven, wherein the cleaning apparatus comprises a cleaning article, a cleaning solution and an enclosure at least partially surrounding the cleaning solution;

heating the cleaning apparatus to form a vapor from at least a portion of the cleaning solution;

delivering the vapor from the cleaning apparatus to the microwave oven interior;

loosening a residue adhered on the microwave oven interior; and

removing the residue from the microwave oven interior with the cleaning article.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising deforming the enclosure to delivery the vapor into the microwave oven interior.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the cleaning solution comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of a surfactant, an emulsifier, a fragrance, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the cleaning solution comprises a fragrance and at least a second component selected from the group consisting of water, a surfactant, an emulsifier and combinations thereof.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the fragrance is selected from the group consisting of lemon, citrus or pine.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the cleaning article is selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

37. (New) An apparatus for cleaning a microwave oven interior comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around a cleaning solution comprising water and a fragrance, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable release of the cleaning solution into the microwave oven interior; and

a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process, wherein the enclosure is disposed at least partially around the cleaning article.

38. (New) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the cleaning article is selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the cleaning solution further comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of a surfactant, an emulsifier, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof.

41. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the cleaning solution further comprises a surfactant and an emulsifier.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the fragrance is selected from the group consisting of lemon, citrus or pine.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the at least one component is a surfactant at a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

44. (New) An apparatus for cleaning a microwave oven interior comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around an aqueous cleaning solution comprising a fragrance, wherein the enclosure is deformed to enable fluid communication between the aqueous cleaning solution and the microwave oven interior; and

a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process.

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the cleaning article is partially enclosed by the enclosure and selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel, a shammy and combinations thereof.

46. (New) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the fragrance is selected from the group consisting of lemon, citrus or pine.

47. (New) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the aqueous cleaning solution further comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of a surfactant, an emulsifier, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof.

48. (New) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the at least one component includes a surfactant at a concentration in a range from about 0.5% to about 50%.

49. (New) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the enclosure comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of plastic, paper, cardboard, microwave-safe materials and combinations thereof.

50. (New) An apparatus for cleaning a microwave oven interior comprising:

a cleaning article containing a cleaning solution comprising a fragrance and at least one component selected from the group consisting of water, a surfactant, an emulsifier, an antibacterial agent and combinations thereof; and

an enclosure at least partially enclosing the cleaning article, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of the cleaning solution into the microwave oven interior.

51. (New) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process in the interior of the microwave oven;

a cleaning solution comprising a surfactant which is compatible with food preparation and able to effect cleaning the interior of the microwave oven; and

an enclosure disposed at least partially around the cleaning article and the cleaning solution, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of the cleaning solution.

52. (New) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the enclosure is plastic.

53. (New) The apparatus of claim 52, wherein the cleaning solution further comprises a fragrance.

54. (New) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the enclosure is deformable when heated by the microwave oven.

55. (New) An apparatus for cleaning an interior of a microwave oven comprising:

a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation at least partially enclosed by an enclosure, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of the surfactant solution into the interior of the microwave oven; and

a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process disposed at least partially in the enclosure and at least partially saturated with the surfactant solution.

56. (New) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the surfactant solution further comprises a fragrance.

57. (New) A kit to clean a microwave oven interior comprising:

a cleaning apparatus comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of a cleaning solution comprising a surfactant and a fragrance into the interior of the microwave oven; and

a set of directions comprising:

placing the cleaning apparatus into a microwave oven;

heating the cleaning apparatus with microwave energy for a first period to evaporate a portion of the cleaning solution to form a vapor;

maintaining the microwave oven closed for a second period without the microwave energy to hydrate a residue adhered to the microwave oven interior; and

removing the residue from the microwave oven interior with the cleaning article.

58. (New) A kit to clean a microwave oven interior comprising:

a cleaning apparatus comprising:

an enclosure disposed at least partially around a cleaning solution comprising a surfactant and a fragrance, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of the cleaning solution; and

a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process; and

a set of directions comprising:

placing the cleaning apparatus into a microwave oven;

heating the cleaning apparatus with microwave energy for a first period to evaporate a portion of the cleaning solution to form a vapor;

maintaining the microwave oven closed for a second period without the microwave energy to hydrate a residue adhered to the microwave oven interior; and

removing the residue from the microwave oven interior with the cleaning article.

59. (New) An apparatus for cleaning a microwave oven interior comprising:

a cleaning article selected from the group consisting of a sponge, a cloth, paper, a paper towel or a shammy;

a cleaning solution comprising a solvent and a fragrance, wherein upon being heated, a portion of the cleaning solution forms a cleaning vapor; and

an enclosure at least partially enclosing the cleaning solution and the cleaning article, wherein the enclosure is deformed to enable dispersion of the cleaning vapor into the microwave oven interior.

60. (New) The apparatus of claim 59, wherein the solvent is water.

61. (New) An apparatus for cleaning a microwave oven interior comprising:
a heated cleaning liquid and a cleaning vapor formed from a cleaning solution comprising a solvent and a fragrance; and
an enclosure at least partially enclosing the heated cleaning liquid and a cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable delivery of the cleaning vapor into the microwave oven interior.

62. (New) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the solvent is water.